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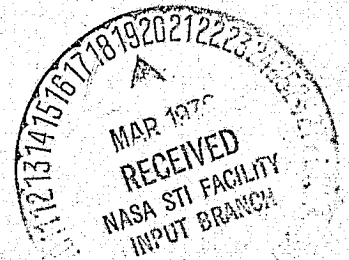
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AIRBORNE PHOTOGRAPHY OF CHEMICAL RELEASES AND ANALYSIS OF TWILIGHT SKY BRIGHTNESS DATA

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INTRODUCTION PHASE II

Project Aladdin consisted of a series of 52 sounding rockets fired from Wallops Island, coinciding with the passage of the Atmospheric Explorer satellite, and coordinated with numerous ground based observations. The original rocket program included nine chemical releases for the measurement of upper-atmospheric winds which were scheduled at 3 hour intervals over a 27 hour period. The standard method of observing these releases utilizing ground sites is subject to weather restrictions which may cause costly delays or interruption of the launch sequence. A delay in the firing schedule was particularly undesirable for the Aladdin program because the Atmospheric Explorer satellite was in a favorable orbit for a limited time. The recently developed technique in which the required observations are obtained from a single high flying aircraft circumvent the weather restrictions and also allow photography of a lithium release during the daytime. The purpose of this phase of the contract was the photography of the chemical releases from aboard the Lear Jet aircraft which is owned and operated by the Airborne Science Office, NASA Ames Research Center.

The Aladdin program required the photography of chemical releases during the day, during twilight and during the night. The brightness of the releases as well as the sky brightness varies greatly for these conditions and thus different techniques and equipment are required for the useful photography of the releases. Careful layout and installation was required in order to accommodate the equipment within the limited capacity of the Lear Jet. The purpose of the various equipment and the method of installation are discussed in the next section.

EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION

During the past three years, the methods of photographing chemical releases from an aircraft and the associated analytical procedures to obtain winds have been developed. These methods were described in the reports under contracts NASW-2308 and NASW-2450.

Photographic observation of a chemical release from an aircraft differs from that from ground sites because of (1) the changing position of the aircraft, (2) the changing orientation, (3) the limitation of exposure time due to aircraft motion, (4) more stringent requirements for pointing accuracy due to varying plane position, and (5) the necessity to continually measure, record, and correlate these parameters. Methods for obtaining and recording these data have been previously developed for the large CV990 aircraft. The use of the smaller Lear Jet required a considerably more efficient use of the available space and a reduced number of cameras and operators. The instrumentation of the aircraft was accomplished by the experienced personnel at NASA Ames Research Center. The major installations and their functions are briefly described in the following paragraphs.

It is required that the aircraft follow a precise flight path and that its position and orientation be recorded continually. Previously this information has been obtained with an Inertial Navigation System (INS) aboard the CV990 aircraft. A similar system was installed in the Lear Jet for the first time and accurate flight paths and aircraft orientation were executed and recorded. Aircraft position was determined by a ground based tracking radar with the aid of an airborne S-band transponder.

The data from the INS, the output of a time code generator, and indicators of photographic exposures were recorded on an eight channel magnetic tape recorder. Some of these data were also recorded on video tape from a display of digital voltmeters.

A major installation was a gyrostabilized mirror system with its associated controls and power suppliers. This system was used to extend the useful exposure time for the relatively dim nighttime chemical releases. This stabilized mirror system maintained the pointing angle during the exposure by correcting for aircraft motion. The system was not activated and the mirror was locked into a fixed position for the twilight and daytime releases.

The cameras are those which were installed in the CV900 previously. The twilight and daytime trails employed standard 70 mm automatic cameras with 80 mm, f 2.8 lenses which provide a useful field angle of approximately 40°. Narrowband filters and locating fiducial marks which allowed the utilization of previous star calibrations were employed during the daytime. The less bright night releases were photographed with f 1.5 lenses and employed the stabilized mirror system to allow useful exposures of up to several seconds. These cameras, as well as the video camera and recorder were operated from 60 cycle power supplied by special converters installed for that purpose.

In addition to the 70 mm camera, two small television cameras and two small monitors were installed. One of these cameras was used to record data as previously indicated. The other television camera was directed toward the chemical releases as were the film cameras. The output of both of the television cameras could be received on the monitors, one of which was installed in the cabin and the other in the cockpit. The primary purpose of viewing the release was to aid in pointing of the aircraft.

Some of the equipment which was installed in the Lear Jet is shown in Figure 1. The stabilized mirror system appears on the left in Figure 1a, adjacent to two 70 mm cameras which viewed the trail through the forward window via the mirror. The video tape recorder is to the right of the camera. In Figure 1b, two other 70 mm cameras are shown in a locked position for take-off and landing. These cameras were moved forward along a guide rail into position in front of the rear window during observations. One of the television monitors and a spare 70 mm camera are shown in the foreground. The INS, power supplier, tape recorder, and various monitors which were mounted in the rear of the cabin are not shown.



Figure 1. Equipment installation in the Lear Jet for the chemical release observations

CHEMICAL RELEASE OBSERVATIONS

The sounding rocket firings associated with project Aladdin were originally scheduled to begin about noon on 17 June and to continue into the afternoon in the following day. Unfavorable weather conditions caused a delay until 29 June with some modification of the number and schedule of rocket firings. The delay allowed time for several test flights with the Lear Jet which were very beneficial for testing and practicing with the hastily installed equipment. The closely spaced chemical releases around twilight required equipment changes in flight and special star calibrations. Practice in those procedures was especially beneficial. Methods were developed also to cope with such problems as window fog and spurious reflection. The aircraft functioned efficiently throughout the period and difficulties which developed in the INS were corrected effectively by the highly competent personnel from Ames Research Center.

The first chemical release occurred during the evening twilight of 28 June. When a trail of sodium and lithium vapor was deposited for the purpose of testing and adjustment of the observing equipment both on the ground and in the aircraft. Good data were obtained from the Lear Jet, but widespread clouds prevented complete observations from the ground. The photographs from on board the aircraft indicated that the chemical vaporizer operated for a shorter period than expected and vapor was not deposited over the desired height range. The trail was released from the descending rocket and thus the vapor did not extend to the lower part of the region of interest; i.e., below 120 km. The release of the final trail in the Aladdin series was changed to the ascending portion of the trajectory in order to circumvent the reoccurrence of that situation.

The sequential series of chemical releases began during evening twilight on 29 June when a descending rocket ejected a puff of barium vapor followed by a series of puffs of TMA and finally a TMA trail. All ground optical sites were reported to be clear and the release was visually observed from them and from the aircraft while flying the planned path. Another release was scheduled for 20 minutes later but did not occur due to a rocket malfunction. The next scheduled release at about midnight failed also due to improper payload performance.

The second successful release occurred about 0200 on 30 June when a downtrail release of TMA was clearly observed from ground sites. The aircraft did not attempt to observe that release in order to enhance probability of more complete coverage of latter releases. The decision to not observe that release from the aircraft was precipitated by deteriorating weather conditions for the ground observations. Fog was becoming dense at Wallops Station about midnight and in order to prevent the possibility of not being able to operate the jet from there at a later time, it was decided to move the aircraft and crew to Langley Research Center where better equipment

allows less stringent operating conditions. The ground sites were reported to be operational, so the observations from the aircraft were not considered to be essential for that release. The Lear Jet landed at Langley after the midnight flight and operated from there until it landed back at Wallops Station around 9 o'clock the next morning.

During that period two observation flights were made. The first lasted for about 2 1/2 hours and two releases were observed. A downtrail of TMA was successfully ejected and observed at 0330 and was followed by another TMA release at 0435 which attained only partial success due to payload difficulties. The second flight from Langley was for observation of the first daytime release of the series which was a trail of lithium vapor released at about 0855, after which the Lear landed at Wallops Station. The final flight in the series was made from Wallops and successfully observed another lithium trail at about 1320 EDT.

The releases observed from the Lear Jet are summarized in Table 1. Example photographs of the various releases are shown in Figures 2, 3, and 4.

Table 1

CHEMICAL RELEASES OBSERVED FROM THE LEAR JET

Vehicle No.		Released material	Launch time EDT.
AFCRL	NASA W.I.		
UT9-301.1	D2-7290	Ba, TMA	2106
UT9-301.4	D2-7294	TMA	0330
PT10-301.6	D2-7291	Ba, TMA	0435
UT9-105.6	D2-7296	Na, Li	0855
UT9-301.7	D2-7297	Na, Li	1320

Figure 2 is the evening twilight release of TMA (2106 EDT) on the downward portion of the rocket trajectory which included a series of puffs followed by a short trail. Figure 3 is another downtrail of TMA released during the nighttime (0330 EDT). Figure 4 is an uptrail release of lithium vapor released during the day (0855 EDT).



Figure 2. Downtrail release of TMA during evening twilight

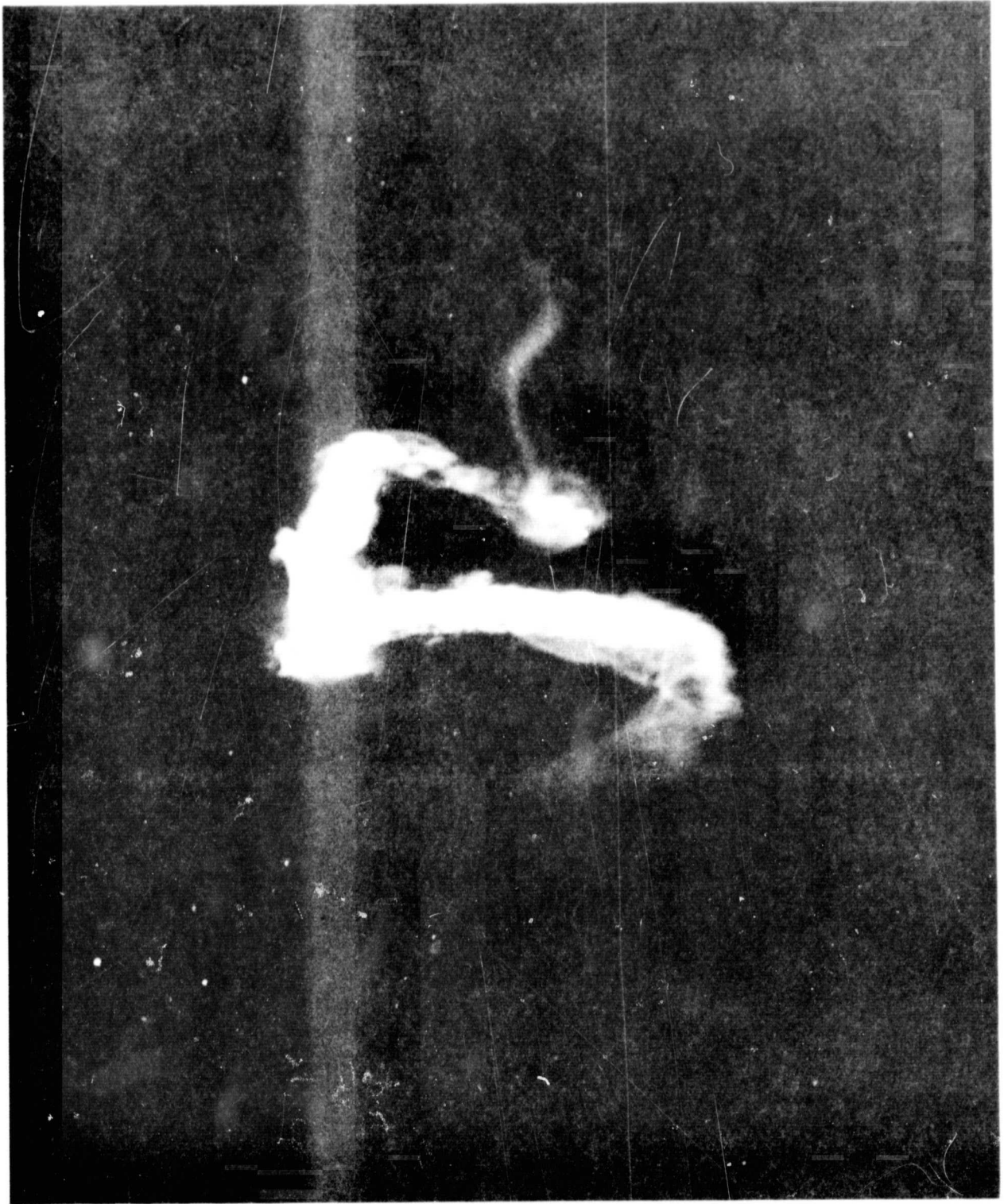


Figure 3. Downtrail release of TMA during the night

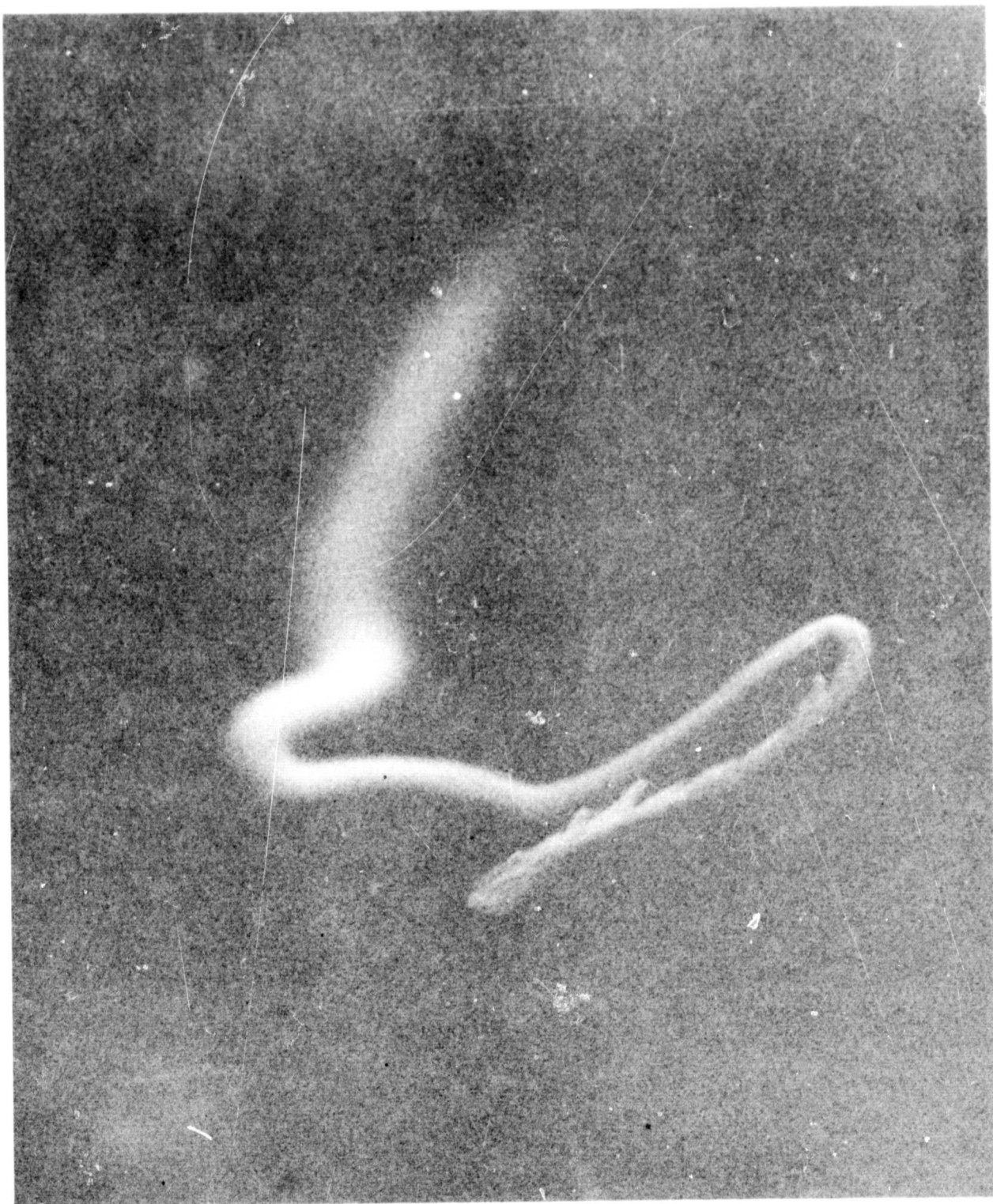


Figure 4. Uptrail release of lithium during the day

DATA SUMMARY

The data consist of photographs of the releases and various auxillary information which is required for the reduction process.

Photographs of the Releases

All of the chemical releases were photographed on 70 mm Kodak 2475 film with 83 mm focal length lenses. The exposures used for the various releases are given in Table 2.

Auxillary Information

The auxillary data were recorded in several different ways as described in Section II. The data for each flight are summarized in Tables 3 through 8. The times of the exposures are given in Local Daylight Time which is GMT minus 4 hours. The altitude of the aircraft was 40,000 ft for all observations. The north latitude and west longitude of the aircraft are given in degrees for the beginning of each exposure. Aircraft heading is in degrees True, pitch is in degrees with plus denoting nose up; roll is in degrees with plus denoting right wing down and minus denoting left wing down.

Star Calibration

Star images for position calibration of the photographs were obtained during three of the Lear flights. Constellations which appear on frames listed in Tables 1, 2 and 3 have been identified as follows:

Table 1. Ursa Minor, Cepheus, Draco, and Cygnus.

Table 2. Ursa Minor, Cepheus, and Cassiopeia.

Table 3. Andromeda, Triangulum, and Perseus.

Rocket Trajectory

Tabulations of the reduced radar tracking data were furnished to AFCRL by NASA, Wallops Flight Center for each of the rockets involved with the chemical releases.

Table 2
PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPOSURES FOR CHEMICAL RELEASES DURING PROJECT ALADDIN

Rocket no.		Time	Camera #1		Camera #2		Camera #3		Camera #4	
AFCRL	NASA		Stop	Exp.	Stop	Exp.	Stop	Exp.	Stop	Exp.
A0-7-105.7	D2-7285	6/28/74 2110 LDT	2.8	1/2 sec.	2.8	1 sec.	1.5	5 sec.	2.8	1 sec.
UT9-301.1	D2-7290	6/29/74 2106 LDT	2.8	1/2 sec.	2.8	1 sec.	1.5	5 sec.	2.8	1 sec.
UT9-301.4*	D2-7294	6/30/74 0330 LDT	1.5	5 sec.	1.5	5 sec.	1.5	1/2; 1 sec.	2.8	5 sec.
PT10-301.6	D2-7291	6/30/74 0435 LDT	2.8	1/2 sec.	2.8	1 sec.	2.8	5 sec.	2.8	1 sec.
UT9-105.6 [†]	D2-7296	0855 LDT	4	1/10 sec.	4	1/10 sec.	5.6	1/10 sec.	4	1/10 sec.
UT9-301.7 [†]	D2-7297	1320 LDT	4	1/10 sec.	4	1/10 sec.	5.6	1/10 sec.	4	1/10 sec.

* Camera 1 & 2 utilized stabilized mirror system.

[†] All cameras were equipped with narrow band filters.

Table 3

LEAR JET DATA - NASA NO. D2-7285, AFCRL NO. AO-7-105.7,
LAUNCH 2110 LDT, 6/28/74

Frame no.	Time LDT			Lat. deg.	Long. deg.	Heading deg. T	Pitch deg.	Roll deg.
	hr.	min.	sec.					
1	21	15	02.1	35.4165	75.0365	291.32	+2.78	+7.47
5	21	15	26.0	35.4453	75.0871	297.05	+2.95	+0.23
10	21	15	56.0	35.4788	75.1527	288.15	+2.66	+0.26
15	21	16	26.0	35.5086	75.2172	286.82	+2.71	+0.83
20	21	16	56.1	35.5388	75.2818	289.05	+2.69	+2.05
25	21	17	26.1	35.5710	75.3452	290.76	+2.71	+0.28
30	21	17	56.1	35.6037	75.4093	291.57	+2.77	-0.91
35	21	18	26.1	35.6067	75.4720	290.70	+2.84	-1.00
40	21	18	56.1	35.6674	75.5323	289.66	+2.75	-0.49
45	21	19	26.2	35.6992	75.5993	289.99	+2.57	-0.89
50	21	19	56.2	35.7306	75.6648	289.63	+2.77	+0.34
55	21	20	26.2	35.7628	75.7308	291.28	+2.69	+0.62
60	21	20	56.3	35.7959	75.7979	291.48	+2.37	-0.02
65	21	21	26.3	35.8295	75.8647	292.48	+2.48	+0.66
70	21	21	56.3	35.8650	75.9302	296.87	+2.37	+2.95
75	21	22	26.4	35.9053	75.9938	301.60	+2.26	+5.07
80	21	22	56.4	35.9523	76.0549	308.33	+2.30	+3.86
85	21	23	26.4	36.0038	76.1092	313.36	+2.35	+1.12
90	21	23	56.4	36.0568	76.1583	311.64	+2.53	-1.84
95	21	24	26.4	36.1032	76.2184	300.94	+2.11	+7.23
100	21	24	56.4	36.1513	76.2752	311.10	+2.40	-10.81

Table 4

LEAR JET DATA - NASA NO. D2-7290, AFCRL NO. UT9-301.1,
LAUNCH 2106 LDT, 6/29/74

Frame no.	Time LDT			Lat. deg.	Long. deg.	Heading deg. T	Pitch deg.	Roll deg.
	hr.	min.	sec.					
1	21	08	56	35.4722	74.7993	259.51	+2.75	-0.39
5	21	09	20	35.4713	74.8495	264.39	+2.82	+2.20
10	21	09	50	35.4761	74.9132	269.24	+2.32	+4.02
15	21	10	20	35.4854	74.9780	274.10	+2.30	-0.20
20	21	10	50	35.4956	75.0414	272.48	+2.40	-0.94
25	21	11	20	35.5051	75.1071	274.10	+2.36	+3.77
30	21	11	50	35.5179	75.1722	275.72	+2.46	-2.73
35	21	12	20	35.5294	75.2386	277.34	+2.45	+2.07
40	21	12	50	35.5431	75.3035	275.72	+1.95	+2.64
45	21	13	20	35.5606	75.3674	282.04	+2.36	+5.38
50	21	13	50	35.5852	75.4305	287.08	+2.50	+3.05
55	21	14	20	35.6146	75.4919	290.16	+2.48	-0.13
60	21	14	50	35.6446	75.5484	291.79	+2.34	+0.86
65	21	15	20.1	35.6769	75.6088	293.56	+2.38	+3.82
70	21	15	50.1	35.7135	75.6666	289.29	+2.39	+2.73
75	21	16	20.2	35.7534	75.7198	301.58	+2.45	-8.75
80	21	16	50.2	35.7915	75.7739	301.58	+2.29	+2.77
85	21	17	20.2	35.8323	75.8294	301.67	+2.57	-0.44
90	21	17	50.2	35.8719	75.8837	296.80	+2.52	-3.87
95	21	18	20.2	35.9067	75.9415	296.85	+2.38	-3.06
100	21	18	50.2	35.9375	76.0004	291.79	+2.36	-0.92
105	21	19	20.3	35.9667	76.0642	291.80	+2.32	-0.31
110	21	19	50.2	35.9931	76.1258	290.16	+2.39	-0.66

Table 5

LEAR JET DATA - NASA NO. D2-7294, AFCRL NO. UT9-301.4,
LAUNCH 0330 LDT, 6/30/74

Frame no.	Time LDT			Lat. deg.	Long. deg.	Heading deg. T	Pitch deg.	Roll deg.
	hr.	min.	sec.					
1	03	33	00.2	35.4168	74.6964	256.03	+2.68	-0.39
5	03	33	23	35.4145	74.7402	259.29	+2.52	+0.32
10	03	33	53	35.4266	74.8019	280.42	+3.09	+3.20
15	03	34	23	35.4611	74.8550	298.29	+2.63	+2.66
20	03	34	53	35.5027	74.9028	298.30	+2.57	+0.57
25	03	35	23	35.5449	74.9506	298.30	+2.39	-0.61
30	03	35	53	35.5885	74.9981	296.85	+2.38	+4.18
35	03	36	23	35.6364	75.0403	304.79	+2.29	+3.55
40	03	36	53	35.6879	75.0775	301.58	+2.18	-0.94
45	03	37	23	35.7408	75.1139	296.85	+2.23	-1.00
50	03	37	53	35.7932	75.1506	290.16	+2.18	-0.18
55	03	38	23	35.8454	75.1876	285.30	+2.36	-0.62
60	03	38	53.1	35.8998	75.2223	278.78	+2.21	-2.62
65	03	39	23.1	35.9540	75.2533	278.80	+2.23	-3.87
70	03	39	53.1	36.0123	75.2762	278.80	+2.36	-5.95
75	03	40	23.1	36.0739	75.2897	262.53	+2.45	-4.77
80	03	40	53.1	36.1368	75.2976	278.80	+2.39	-1.16
85	03	41	23.1	36.2001	75.3017	278.80	+2.57	-5.19
90	03	41	53.1	36.2641	75.3003	262.53	+2.59	-0.92
95	03	42	23.1	36.3283	75.2960	278.80	+2.55	-2.44

Table 6

LEAR JET DATA - NASA NO. D2-7295, AFCRL NO. PT10-301.6,
LAUNCH 0435 LDT, 6/30/74

Frame no.	Time LDT			Lat. deg.	Long. deg.	Heading deg. T	Pitch deg.	Roll deg.
	hr.	min..	sec.					
1	04	39	20	35.5543	75.0822	not recorded	+3.66	+0.13
5	04	39	44	35.5728	75.1194		+3.77	-0.30
10	04	40	14	35.5962	75.1660		+4.04	+2.02
15	04	40	44	35.6247	75.2125		+4.20	-5.93
20	04	41	14				+4.59	-0.88
25	04	41	44	no data			+4.36	+7.88
30	04	42	14				+4.38	+3.38
35	04	42	44	35.7671	75.3340		+4.52	+0.59
40	04	43	14	35.8127	75.3522		+4.30	-1.05
45	04	43	44	35.8586	75.3725		+4.18	-0.96
50	04	44	14	35.9053	75.3924	+3.82	+2.82	
55	04	44	44	35.9542	75.4081	+3.61	+2.05	
60	04	45	14	36.0056	75.4195	+3.54	+1.63	
65	04	45	44	36.0574	75.4313	+3.48	-2.86	
70	04	46	14	36.1081	75.4483	+3.18	-3.29	
75	04	46	44	36.1528	75.4787	+3.04	+5.29	
80	04	47	14	36.2034	75.4969	+3.30	-1.05	
85	04	47	44	36.2554	75.5137	+3.30	+1.89	
90	04	48	14	36.3092	75.5274	+3.00	+1.71	
95	04	48	44	36.3642	75.5382	+2.96	+0.96	

Table 7

LEAR JET DATA - NASA NO. D2-7296; AFCRL NO. UT9-105.9,
LAUNCH 0855 LDT, 6/30/74

Frame no.	Time LDT			Lat. deg.	Long. deg.	Heading deg. T	Pitch deg.	Roll deg.
	hr.	min.	sec.					
1	08	56	01.4	38.9386	74.5527	110.17	+3.50	+1.66
5	08	56	25.4	38.9242	74.4940	110.17	+2.89	+0.23
10	08	56	55.4	38.9047	74.4199	114.89	+3.25	+4.21
15	08	57	25.4	38.8831	74.3477	116.29	+3.16	+0.11
20	08	57	55.4	38.8603	74.2755	117.91	+3.25	+2.43
25	08	58	25.4	38.8351	74.2045	117.91	+3.07	+3.79
30	08	58	55.4	38.8056	74.1363	128.53	+3.24	+2.84
35	08	59	25.4	38.7722	74.0715	130.15	+3.31	+0.70
40	08	59	55.4	38.7380	74.0018	130.15	+3.07	-3.03
45	09	00	25.4	38.7046	73.9426	130.15	+2.77	+4.25
50	09	00	55.5	38.6683	73.8804	120.97	+2.68	+1.09
55	09	01	25.6	38.6294	73.8221	139.33	+3.33	+4.45
60	09	01	55.7	38.5855	73.7681	148.50	+3.04	+1.66
65	09	02	25.7	38.5396	73.7185	146.89	+2.96	+0.00
70	09	02	55.7	38.4940	73.6693	148.51	+2.75	+0.02
75	09	03	25.8	38.4467	73.6213	149.95	+2.98	+1.80
80	09	03	55.8	38.3979	73.5762	153.02	+3.11	+0.00
85	09	04	25.9	38.3484	73.5313	153.02	+3.25	+0.05
90	09	04	55.9	38.2989	73.4883	154.63	+3.04	+1.09
95	09	05	25.9	38.2481	73.4474	154.63	+3.11	+0.32
100	09	05	56.0	38.1955	73.4082	157.70	+2.77	+1.16

Table 8

LEAR JET DATA - NASA NO. D2-7297; AFCRL NO. UT9-301.7,
LAUNCH 1320 LDT, 6/30/74

Frame no.	Time LDT			Lat. deg.	Long. deg.	Heading deg. T	Pitch deg.	Roll deg.
hr.	min.	sec.						
1	13	21	00	35.7944	75.6664	275.49	not recorded	+1.64
5	13	21	24.4	35.8037	75.7229	284.48		+4.93
10	13	21	54.5	35.8208	75.7921	288.08		+4.73
15	13	22	24.5	35.8431	75.8582	291.68		+1.73
20	13	22	54.8	35.8688	75.9237	297.07		+2.29
25	13	23	25	35.8974	75.9870	286.28		+5.91
30	13	23	55.2	35.9316	76.0471	307.86		+4.45
35	13	24	25.5	35.9714	76.1036	315.05		+1.46
40	13	24	55.8	36.0127	76.1574	316.85		+1.84
45	13	25	26	36.0585	76.2093	318.65		+1.88
50	13	25	56	36.1044	76.2593	322.24		+0.09
55	13	26	26.2	36.1519	76.3080	324.04		-2.15
60	13	26	56.2	36.1992	76.3560	324.04		+1.86
65	13	27	26.3	36.2478	76.4009	327.64		+3.30
70	13	27	56.5	36.2987	76.4446	331.23		+2.77
75	13	28	26.4	36.3528	76.4824	334.83		-1.91
80	13	28	56.5	36.4052	76.5229	329.43		-1.67
85	13	29	26.6	36.4562	76.5654	327.64		+0.38
90	13	29	56.6	36.5071	76.6085	329.43		+1.18
95	13	30	26.6	36.5588	76.6496	331.23		+1.46
100	13	30	56.7	36.6127	76.6880	333.03		+2.52

INTRODUCTION PHASE III

Numerous photographs of the brightness of the twilight sky were obtained during the observations of the comet Kohoutek which were reported in Phase I of this contract. Densitometry and analysis of a few of these photographs indicated that the effects of absorption in the Chappius bands of ozone were indicated by a minimum in brightness, around 0.6μ . However, the extent and precision of the initial analysis was insufficient to determine accurately the magnitude of the effect or the usefulness of the results for the investigation of atmospheric ozone.

A more extensive analysis of the twilight sky photographs is reported here. The results indicate that the quality and completeness of these data severely limit the interpretation of the results. The primary purpose of the photographs was the measurement of the brightness of the comet within specified wavelength intervals and the exposure and development procedures were chosen for that purpose. These procedures were adjusted to provide maximum contrast for the unexpectedly dim comet image which was unfavorable for the sky brightness observations because only the wideband filters provided data useful for densitometry. In addition, the variability of the procedures increased the uncertainty in the comparison of the data for different camera and filter combinations.

However, the results clearly reveal effects of the absorption by ozone and thus contain information concerning the ozone distribution. The potential value of such information is discussed in Section IX of this report. The data are described in Section VI. The methods of tabulation and analysis of the data are described in Section VII and VIII.

DESCRIPTION OF TWILIGHT SKY PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographs were obtained from onboard the NASA CV-990 aircraft at an altitude of 40,000 ft off the coast of California during January 1974. The geometry of the observations is shown in Figure 5. The observations are made from the aircraft position, A, at various elevation angles, Θ , for differing solar depression angles, δ . The widely varying effects of scattering and absorption of the solar rays for the integrated observing path are illustrated at selected points p.

All photographs were recorded on 70 mm roll film Kodak 2475, with 80 mm focal length lenses. Data were obtained with broad band filters, Wratten 15, 23A, and 29; narrow band interference filters centered at 5890A and 6708A; and with no filters. The transmissions of the filters are shown in Figure 6. Varying exposures required for the different filters and for changing sky brightness were obtained with adjustments of the aperture stops and length of exposure. The field of view of the cameras contained some portion of the ocean, the horizon (sometimes cloudy), and the twilight sky in the solar direction. An isophote of the entire field for a typical photograph is shown in Figure 7. The linearity of the camera system and the ability to discriminate sky brightness variations are clearly demonstrated. The data were obtained from densitometry along a line normal to the horizon and lying in a plane containing the sun and the aircraft so that displacement from the horizon along this line corresponds to a specific elevation angle. An example of a density profile is shown in Figure 8. The method of tabulation of these data is described in Section VII.

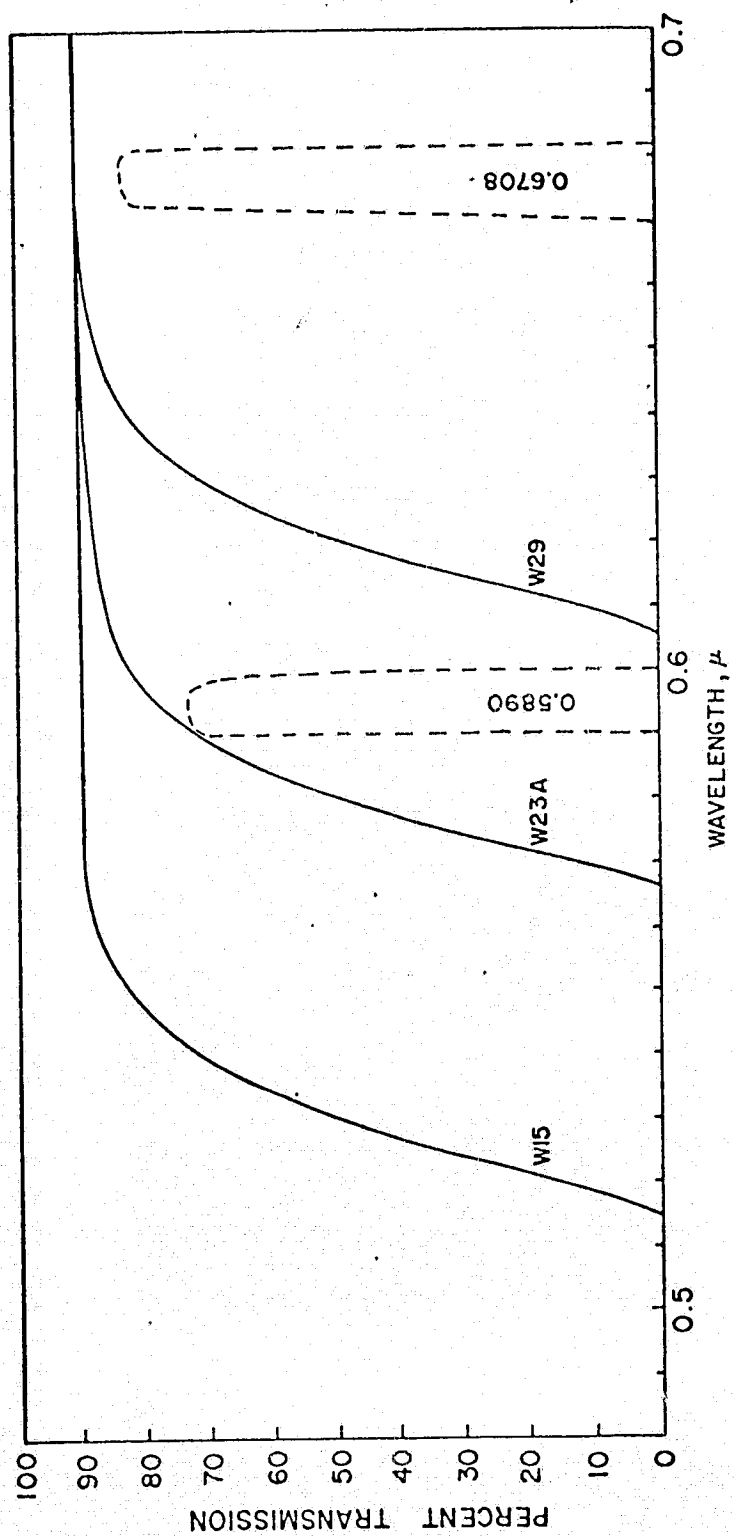
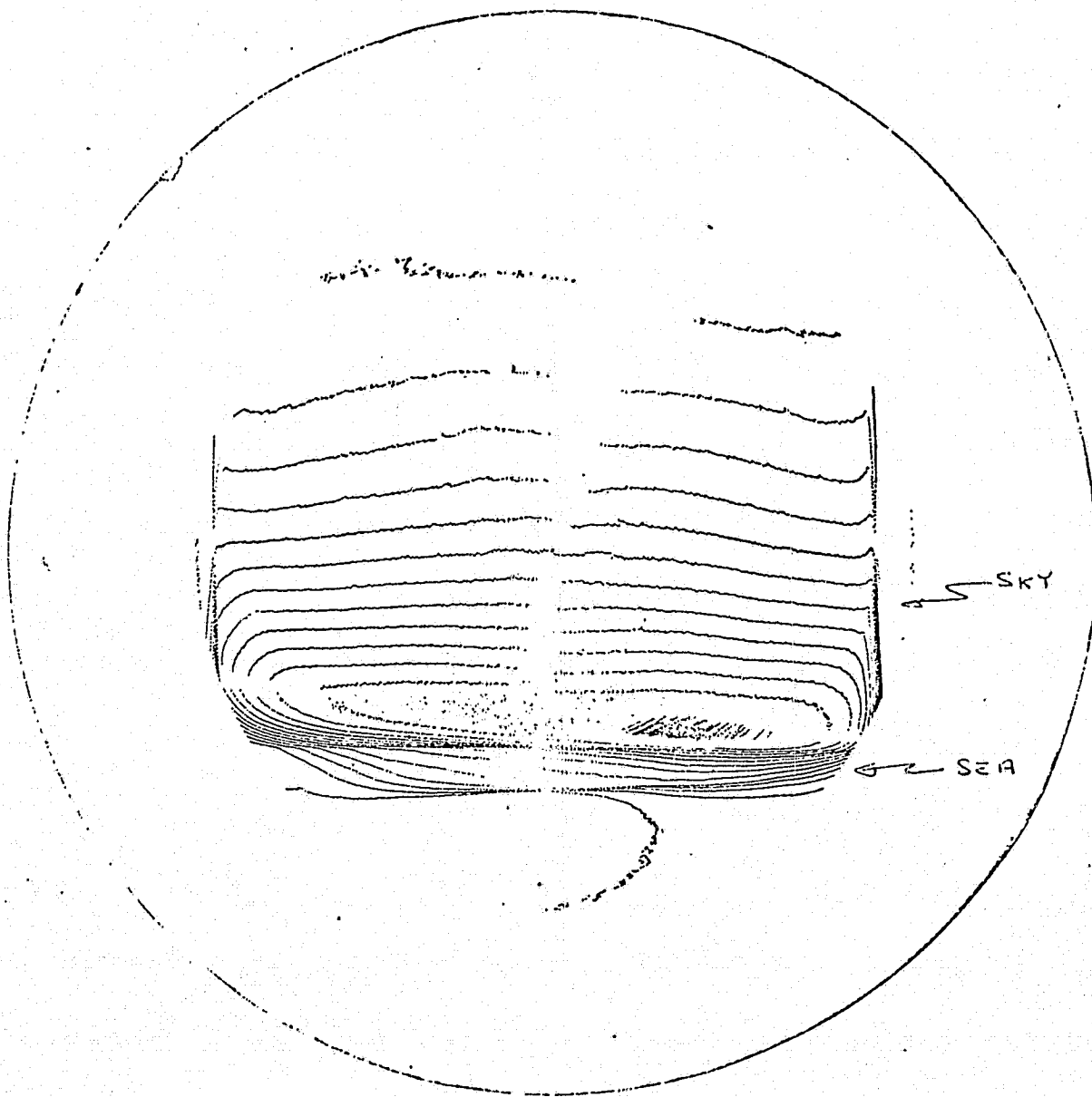


Figure 6. Transmission of filters used in sky observations

EDP SCANNING MICROSCOPE



SAMPLE GCA #1 6.140
 MAGNIFICATION 2
 SCANNING APERTURE 20000
 CONTOUR INTERVAL _____
 DATE 4-26-74

PHOTOMETRICS, INC.
 442 MARRETT RD., LEXINGTON, MASS. 02173
 (617) 862-8050

Figure 7. Isophote of a typical sky photograph

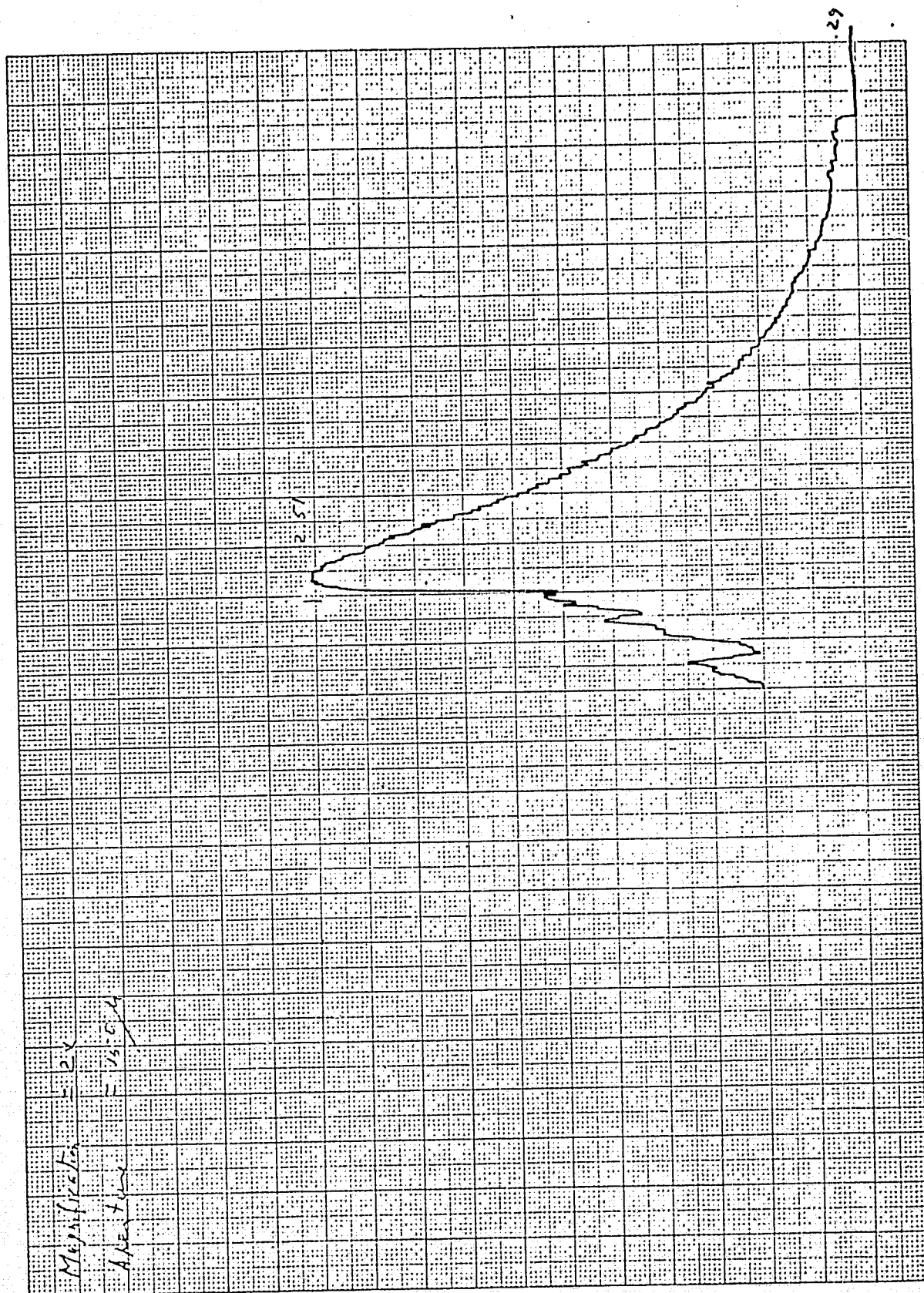


Figure 8. Density profile from a typical twilight sky photograph

TABULATION OF TWILIGHT SKY DATA

A successive exposure sequence of 22 photographs was densitometered as described in Section VI. Relative densities of the twilight sky were generated from the horizon to 12° elevation for the interval between a solar depression angle of 1 and 6 degrees. The exposure sequence beginning with no filter was continued with Wratten filters no. 15, 23A, and 29 and ended with interference filters at 5890 and 6700A. Density values and corresponding elevation angles were tabulated at density intervals of 0.1 which produced about 20 points for each density profile. The data for each profile were then represented by a polynomial and density values were tabulated at even elevation angles from 1° to 10° and at 12° . As an example of errors associated with this process, the measured data from the third photograph in the sequence, frame number 3, is tabulated in Table 9. The elevation angle is listed in the first column, measured film density in the second, calculated density from the polynomial representation in the third and the error (difference between columns 2 and 3) in the last column. The density values at even elevation angles which were used in the analysis are give in Table 10.

Table 9

EXAMPLE OF POLYNOMIAL REPRESENTATION OF DATA

FRAME= 3				
N	ELEV	DEN	CDEN	ERROR
1	1.720	2.510	2.533	.023
2	2.924	2.388	2.368	-.019
3	3.440	2.286	2.290	.005
4	4.300	2.184	2.155	-.029
5	4.885	2.082	2.000	-.022
6	5.504	1.980	1.959	-.021
7	5.917	1.878	1.892	.014
8	6.536	1.776	1.792	.016
9	7.086	1.674	1.705	.031
10	7.774	1.572	1.599	.028
11	8.531	1.470	1.488	.018
12	9.460	1.368	1.360	-.008
13	10.320	1.266	1.250	-.016
14	11.111	1.164	1.157	-.006
15	12.040	1.062	1.059	-.003
16	13.347	.960	.939	-.021
17	14.586	.858	.843	-.014
18	15.824	.756	.763	.008
19	17.888	.654	.658	.004
20	19.952	.552	.575	.023
21	23.736	.450	.437	-.012
22	33.024	.327	.328	.001

Table 10

DENSITIES AT EVEN ELEVATION ANGLES

FRAME= 3		
N	ELEV	DEN
1	1.000	2.615
2	2.000	2.497
3	3.000	2.357
4	4.000	2.203
5	5.000	2.041
6	6.000	1.878
7	7.000	1.718
8	8.000	1.566
9	9.000	1.422
10	10.000	1.290
11	12.000	1.063

DETERMINATION OF RELATIVE INTENSITY AND ATMOSPHERIC ATTENUATION

The spectral sensitivity of the film, the transmission characteristic of the filters and the exposure for each frame were used to transform the density values into relative intensities normalized to an aperture setting of f/11, and to a 0.01 second exposure time. The flux of wavelength, λ , passing through filter, N, was represented as,

$$I(\lambda, N) = S(\lambda) \cdot F(\lambda) \cdot G(\lambda, N) \cdot A(\lambda)$$

where $S(\lambda)$ is the solar flux at wavelength, λ ,
 $F(\lambda)$ is the film sensitivity at λ ,
 $G(\lambda, N)$ is the transmission at λ for filter, N, and
 $A(\lambda)$ is the atmospheric attenuation at λ .

The measured intensities for filter, N, may be represented as,

$$E(N) = \int_{\lambda \min}^{\lambda \max} d\lambda I(\lambda, N)$$

where $\lambda \min$ and $\lambda \max$ are the wavelength limits of the filtered region.

A mean wavelength for each filtered region was determined as follows.

$$\overline{\lambda^*(N)} = \frac{\int_{\lambda \min}^{\lambda \max} d\lambda \cdot \lambda \cdot I(\lambda, N)}{E(N)}$$

which was approximated by,

$$\overline{\lambda(N)} = \frac{\int_{\lambda \min}^{\lambda \max} d\lambda \cdot \lambda \cdot S(\lambda) \cdot F(\lambda) \cdot G(\lambda, N)}{\int_{\lambda \min}^{\lambda \max} d\lambda \cdot S(\lambda) \cdot F(\lambda) \cdot G(\lambda, N)}$$

Utilizing the filters listed in Section III, and the differences between filtered regions, a total of 12 effective average wavelengths and associated intensities were determined. These regions are listed in Table 11, together with an effective band width, $\Delta \lambda$, which was determined from

$$\Delta \lambda(N)^2 = \overline{\lambda^2(N)} - \overline{\lambda(N)}^2$$

where

$$\overline{\lambda^2(N)} = \frac{\int_{\lambda \min}^{\lambda \max} d\lambda \cdot \lambda^2 \cdot I(\lambda, N)}{E(N)}$$

Table 11

LIST OF FILTERED REGIONS

Region No.	Filter name	$\overline{\lambda}_\mu$	$\Delta\lambda_\mu$
1	None	0.490	± 0.108
2	W15	0.610	± 0.047
3	W23A	0.635	± 0.033
4	W29	0.655	± 0.021
5	(1-2)	0.430	± 0.075
6	(1-3)	0.448	± 0.083
7	(1-4)	0.463	± 0.091
8	(2-3)	0.559	± 0.023
9	(2-4)	0.577	± 0.029
10	(3-4)	0.601	± 0.016
11	5890	0.594	± 0.003
12	6708	0.677	± 0.003

Typical values of $\log E(N)$ for the 12 effective wavelengths are shown in Figure 9 for a constant elevation angle of 2 degrees and even solar depression angles of 1 through 6 degrees. The minimum around 0.6μ is clearly evident. Similar data for an elevation angle of 5 degrees is shown in Figure 10. The minimum around 0.6μ is depicted in a different manner in Figure 11 in which some of the data from Figure 10 is plotted versus solar depression angle. The minimum value, 0.589, and two values about 0.05μ on either side of the minimum vary smoothly throughout the observing period.

The data were tabulated in a different form by defining the average atmospheric attenuation, $A(N)$ as follows:

$$\overline{A(N)} = E(N) / \int_{\lambda \text{ min}}^{\lambda \text{ max}} d\lambda \cdot S(X) \cdot F(\lambda) \cdot G(\lambda, N)$$

Typical values from this computation appear in Figures 12 and 13 in which $\log A(N)$ is shown for varying solar depression angles. The increased attenuation around 0.6μ is evident but the irregularities in the data are too great to allow an accurate determination of the magnitude, even after the averaging process.

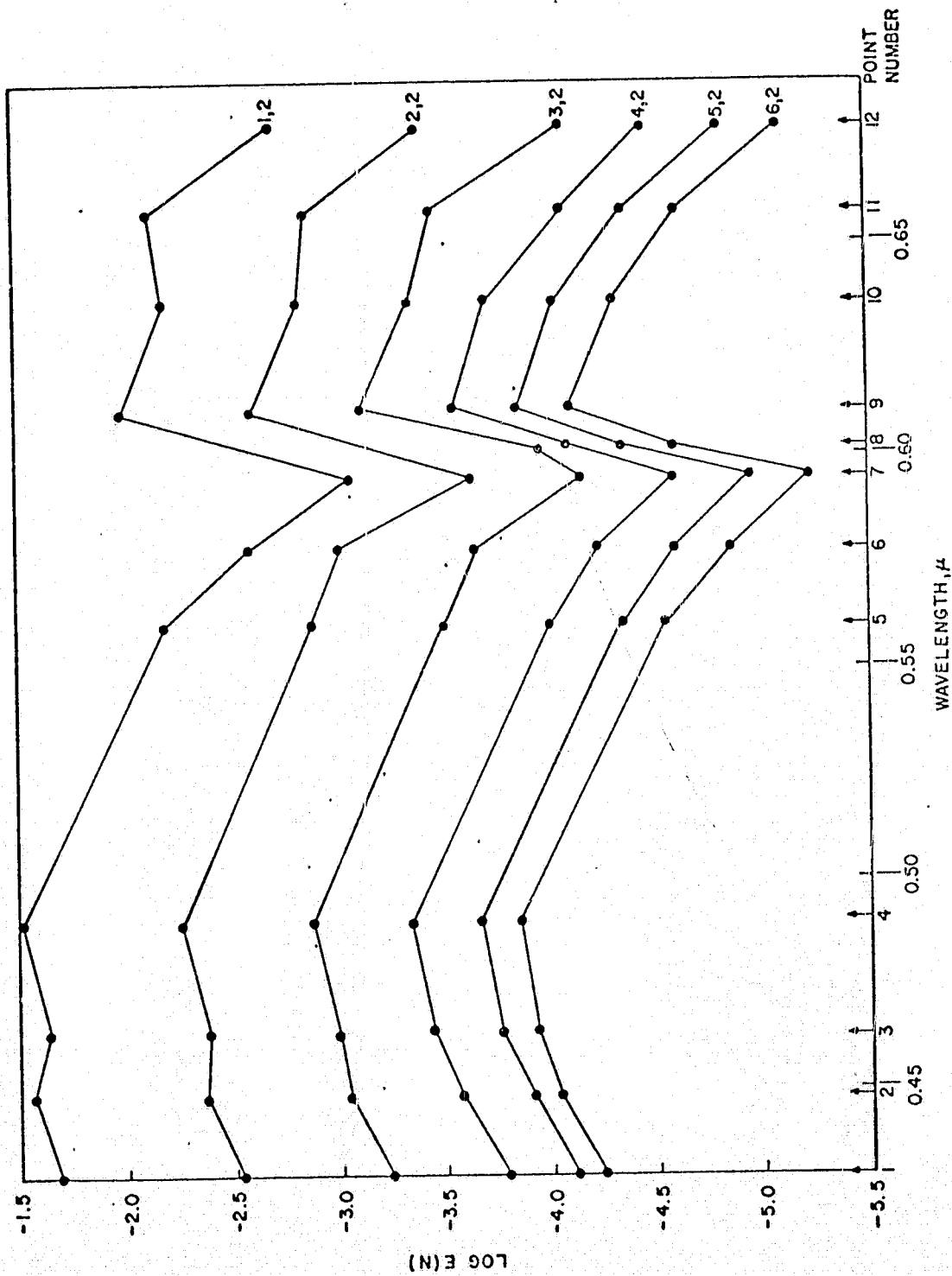


Figure 9. $\log E(N)$ for elevation angle of 2 degrees and SDA of 1 to 6 degrees

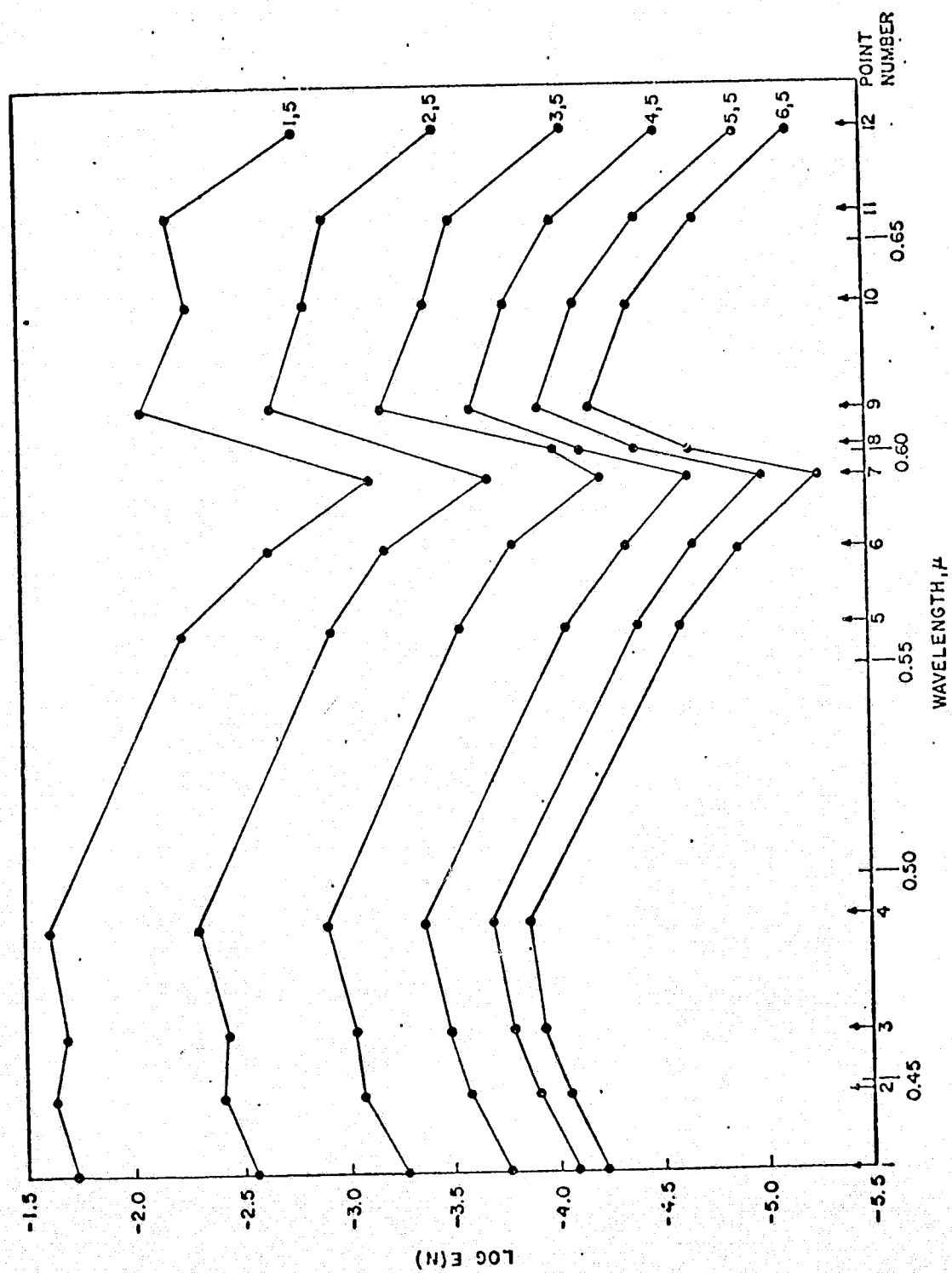


Figure 10. $\text{Log } E(N)$ for elevation angle of 5 degrees

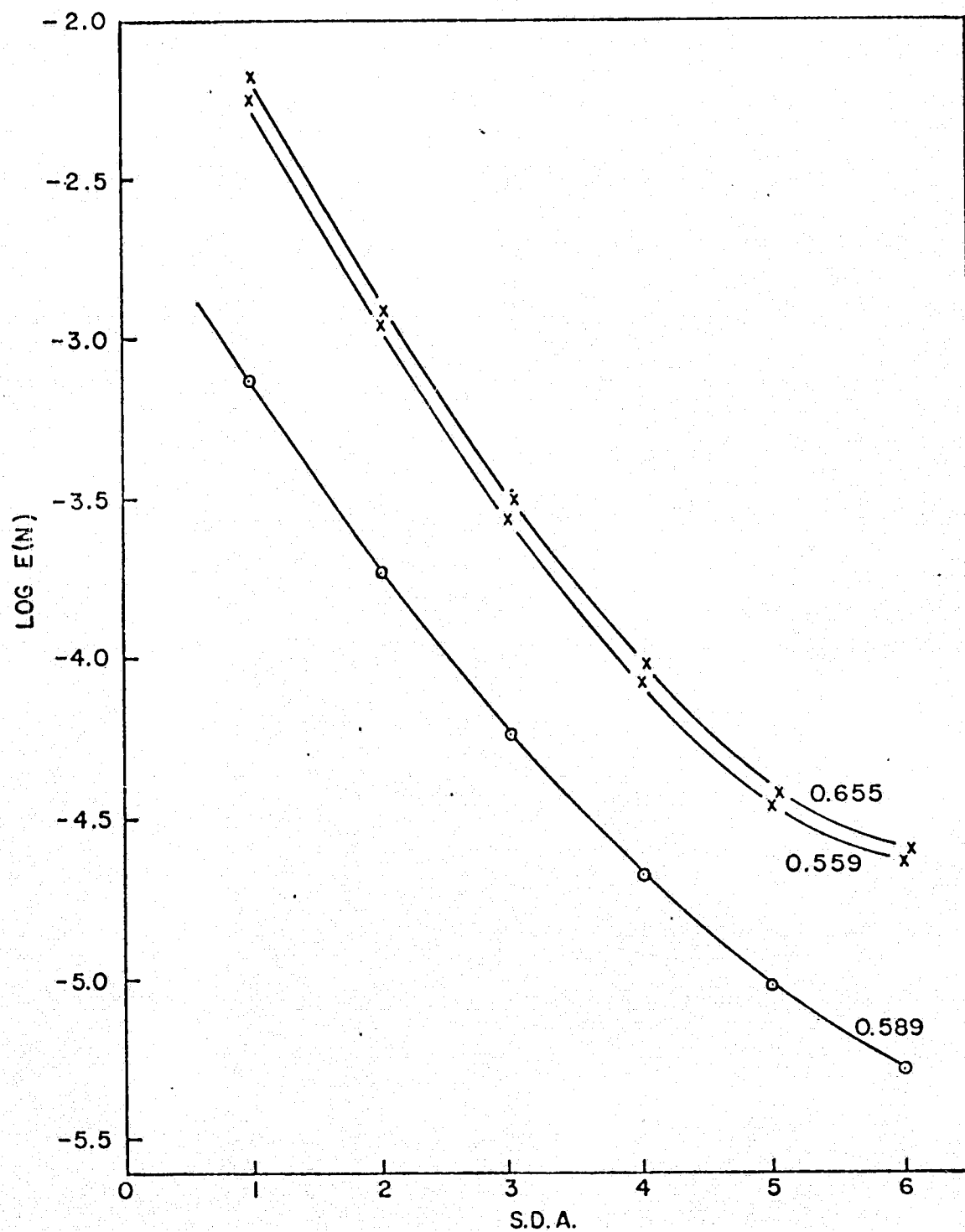


Figure 11. Log $E(N)$ versus SDA for three wavelength intervals

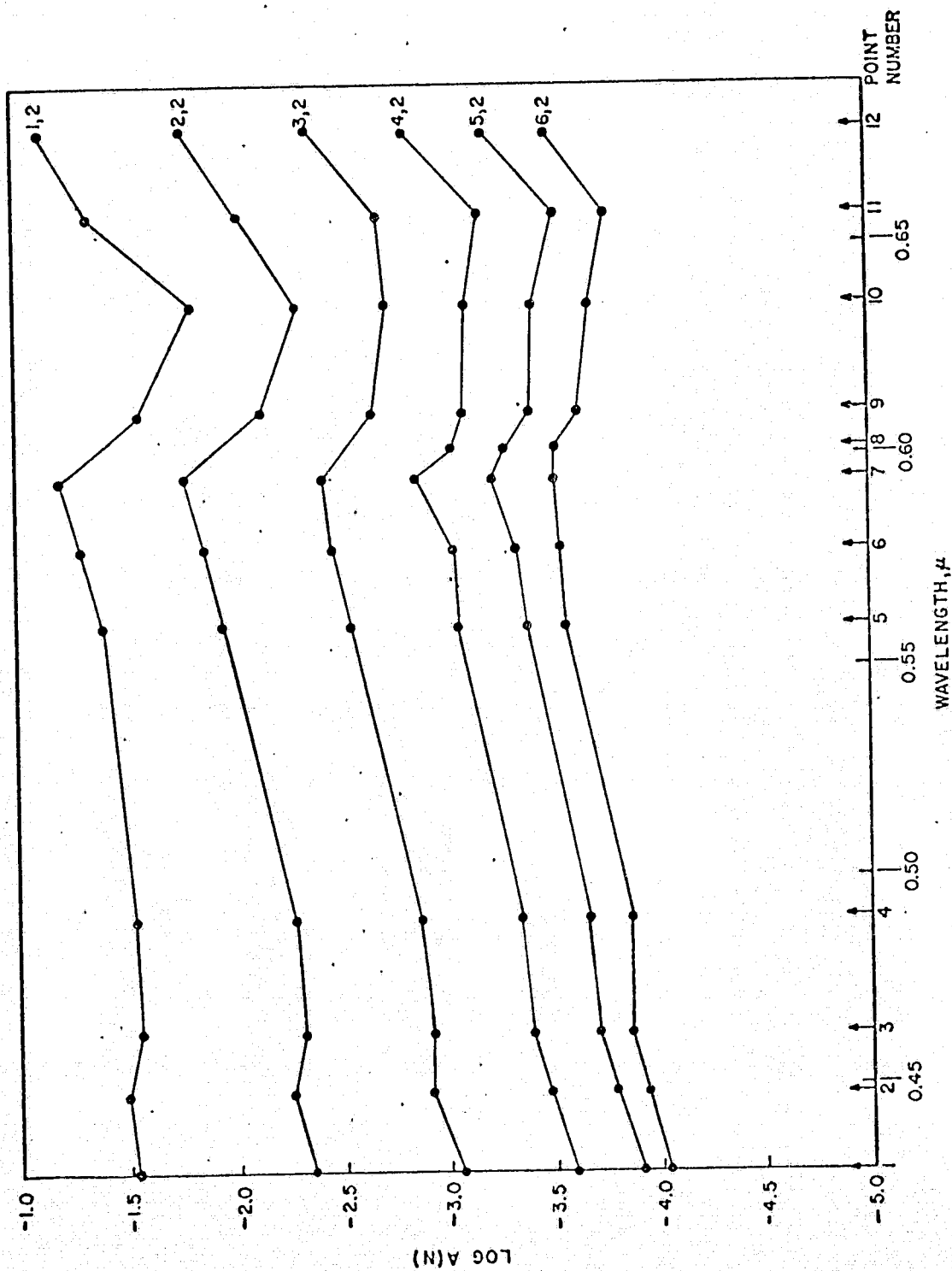


Figure 12. $\text{Log } A(N)$ for elevation angle of 2 degrees and SDA of 1 to 6 degrees

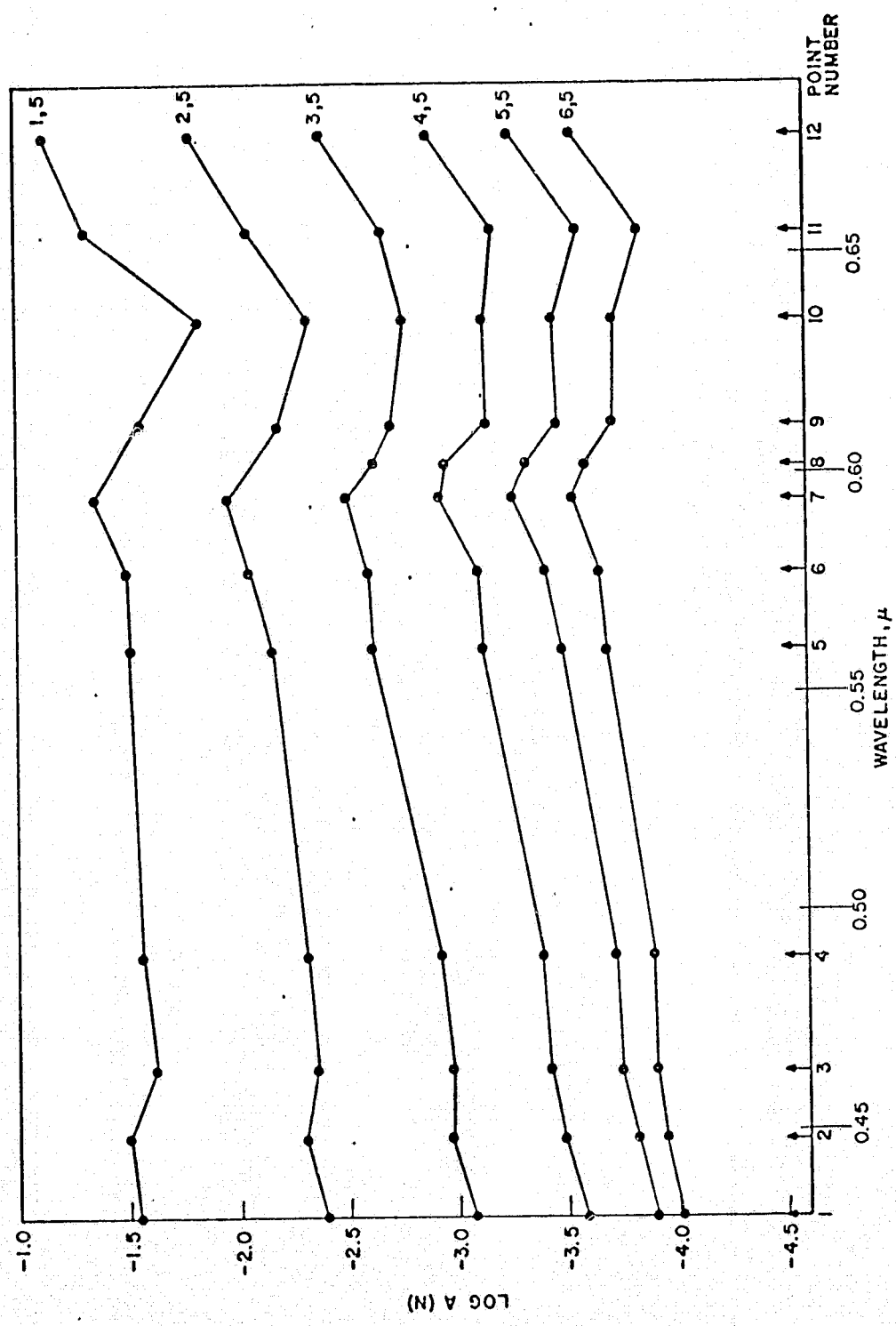


Figure 13. $\text{Log } A(N)$ for elevation angle of 5 degrees

DISCUSSION

The special limitations of these photographic data were stated previously. There are also general difficulties associated with calibration and processing of photographic records especially if absolute values of brightness are desired as functions of wavelength, time, and direction. However, the same type of data may be recorded with photoelectric methods which allow accurate, continuous calibration and recording of intensity and the other parameters. Thus the effectiveness of the general observational method should be determined independent of the photographic difficulties. For instance, a scanning spectrophotometer with a photoelectric sensor, could record an accurately calibrated twilight sky profile with all necessary information for direct computer processing. The uncertainties associated with these photographic data and processing would be eliminated.

The comparison of the measurements obtained from one unique sunset with the results derived from a general theoretical model allows only general conclusions at best. In this instance the difficulties are increased because the data were taken on board the aircraft and the model chosen for comparison depicts ground based measurements. The model by Adams, Plass and Kattawar (1974) was chosen because it is the most recent and includes the effects of aerosols. The effects of ozone and varying concentrations of aerosols are depicted in Figure 14 from the model. The general shapes of the curves C and D are similar to the plots of $A(N)$ derived from our measurements in Figures 12 and 13. However, it should be noted that the model calculated the optical thickness through one atmosphere whereas the observed data are from the geometry shown in Figure 5.

Radiance values calculated by the model are reproduced in Figure 15 for solar depression angles of 0 and 6 degrees and for varying elevation angles. Model B includes only ozone and model C incorporates a "standard" aerosol content also. Again, it should be noted that the model is for ground observations and thus includes a considerably different absorption path along the line-of-sight than is encountered in the airborne observations. Due to the differences in the geometry, the solar depression angles and elevation angles are not directly comparable in the two methods. Nevertheless, the observations clearly contain the absorption effects as calculated by the theoretical model and thus potentially provide a method of measurement.

The method, if developed, would have some unique and useful advantages. In particular, the measurements are made in the visible region of the spectrum where accurate absolute calibration is relatively simple as compared to those methods that utilize the ultraviolet region in which calibration is a major problem. A comparison of results from the different methods might substantially improve the precision of each. The advantages of the aircraft observations as compared to ground sites include, (1) independence of local weather, (2) reduction of effects of lower atmosphere aerosols, and (3) mobility to observe at varying latitudes, and for special conditions.

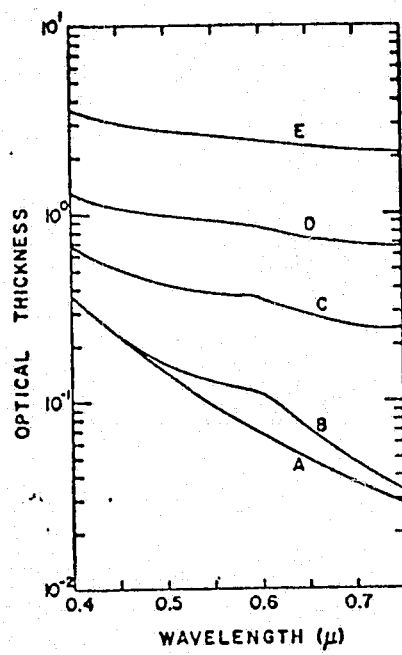


Figure 14. Model values of optical thickness (after Adams et al.)

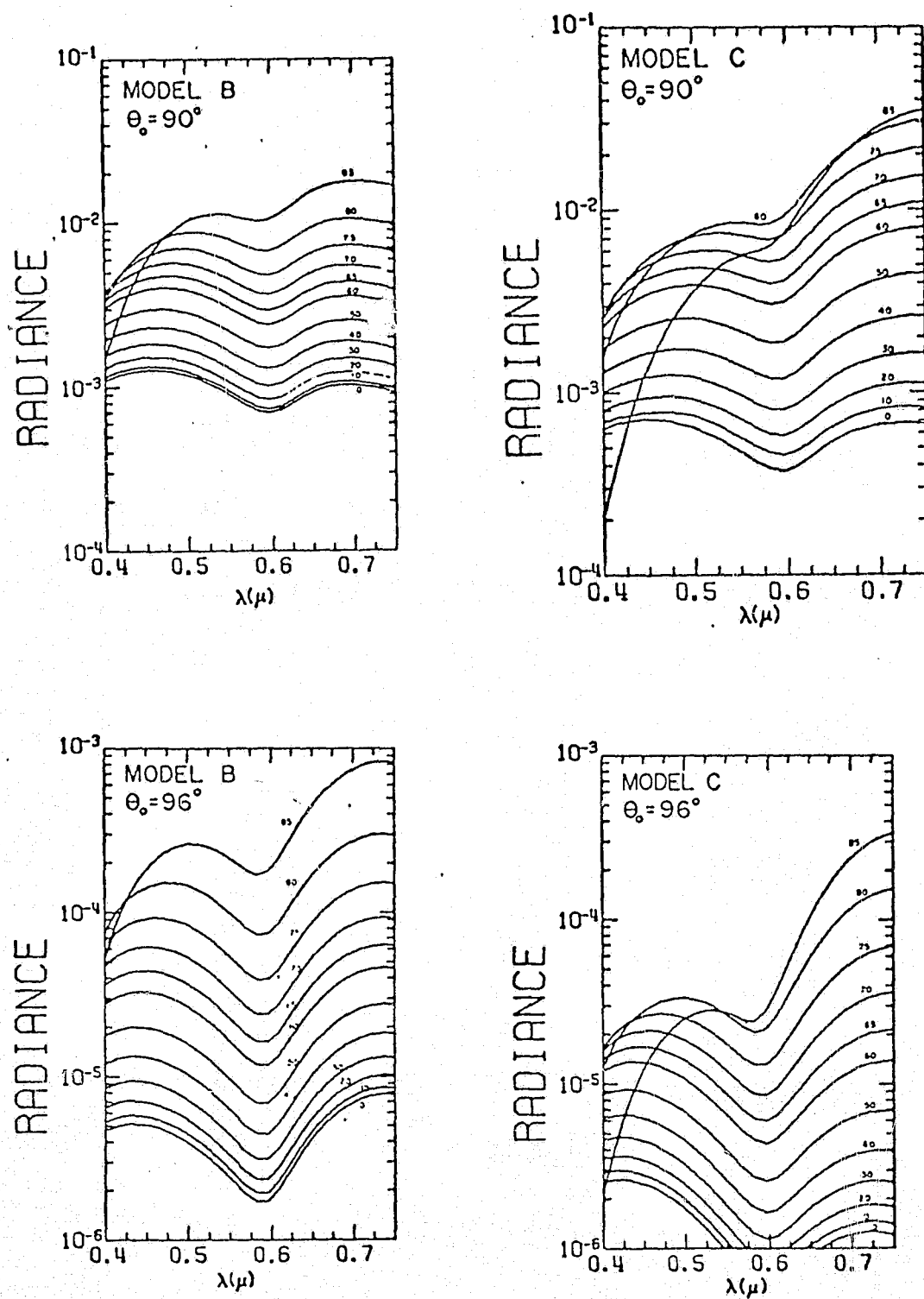


Figure 15. Radiance values from models (after Adams et al.)

The integrated effect which is observed in the twilight data complicates the interpretation but also smooths out local variations which occur in some other methods. The integrated values are useful inputs to global models and for interpretation of similar observations from satellites.

Finally, the method may also be useful for the measurement of NO_2 which has absorption bands in the visible region. The aircraft method could be especially effective because NO_2 occurs at various levels in the atmosphere, but could be observed from different altitudes in order to establish the distribution.

In summary, the method appears to have useful application if the recording is photoelectric and a complete model is developed for the aircraft geometry.

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